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Agenda items 107 and 77 (a)

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

United Nations/International Maritime Organization Conference of Plenipotentiaries on a Draft Convention on Maritime Liens and Mortgages

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.91

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. At its 58th meeting, held on 11 December 1991, the Second Committee adopted, without a vote, draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.91. A statement of programme budget implications was before the Committee in document A/C.2/46/L.113.

2. Under the terms of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.91, the General Assembly would decide that a United Nations/International Maritime Organization Conference of Plenipotentiaries on a Draft Convention on Maritime Liens and Mortgages should be convened at Geneva during the first half of 1993 for a period of three weeks.

3. This Conference is part of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 under section 15, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. 1/ No modification of the programme of work or additional resources would be required under section 15.

4. The same Conference, however, does not appear in the draft calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 1992-1993 2/ currently under

consideration by the General Assembly. The full conference-servicing cost would be $1,439,000 (pre-session documentation: $361,000; meeting servicing: $643,000; in-session documentation: $176,000; post-session documentation: $179,000; Office of General Services: $80,000). The conference-servicing costs of $1,439,000 indicated above are established on the theoretical assumption that no part of the conference-servicing requirements would be met from within the permanent conference-servicing capacity under section 32 (Conference services) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 and that additional resources would be required for temporary assistance for meetings. The extent to which the Organization's permanent capacity needs to be supplemented by temporary assistance resources can be determined only in the light of the final calendar of conferences for 1992-1993, and was estimated on the basis of previous experience to accommodate not only meetings that were programmed, but also additional meetings. In other words, provision was made in the proposed programme budget not only for meetings known at the time of budget preparation, but also for meetings that would be authorized subsequently. On that basis, it is estimated that no additional resources would be required under section 32 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, should the draft resolution be adopted.

5. The same resolution also provides for participation in this Conference of representatives of organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate, in the capacity of observers, in the sessions and the work of all international conferences, as well as of representatives of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity in its region (the African National Congress of South Africa and the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania), in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 3237 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974 and 3280 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974. The cost of the participation of the national liberation movements would amount to $14,700 and would be covered under section 15 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. The Palestine Liberation Organization would be represented by its office at Geneva.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/46/6/Rev.1), vol. II.

2/ Ibid., Supplement No. 32 (A/46/32 and Corr.1), annex II.

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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

Programme budget implications of revised draft resolution A/C.3/46/L.61/Rev.1 as orally revised

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. At its 58th meeting, on 10 December 1991, the Third Committee adopted, by a recorded vote, draft resolution A/C.3/46/L.61/Rev.1 as orally further revised. A statement of programme budget implications was before the Committee in document A/C.3/46/L.69.

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 7 to 15, 17 and 18 of draft resolution A/C.3/46/L.61/Rev.1, as orally revised, the General Assembly would:

(a) Affirm the value of the electoral assistance that the United Nations has provided at the request of Member States, in the context of full respect for their sovereignty;

(b) Believe that the international community should continue to give serious consideration to ways in which the United Nations can respond to the requests of Member States as they seek to promote and strengthen their electoral institutions and procedures;

(c) Endorse the Secretary-General's view that he should designate a senior official in the Offices of the Secretary-General to act as focal point, in addition to existing duties and in order to ensure consistency in the handling of requests, who would assist the Secretary-General to coordinate and consider requests for electoral verification and to channel requests for electoral assistance to the appropriate office or programme, to ensure careful consideration of requests for electoral verification, to build on experience gained to develop an institutional memory, to develop and maintain a roster of international experts who could provide technical assistance as well as assist in the verification of electoral processes, and to maintain contact with regional and other intergovernmental organizations to ensure appropriate working arrangements with them and the avoidance of duplication of efforts and request the Secretary-General to designate such an official to take on these tasks;

(d) Determine that the designation of the senior official would neither pre-empt nor supersede ongoing arrangements regarding electoral assistance nor prejudice the operational arrangements for missions that the Organization may decide to undertake;

(e) Request the Secretary-General to allocate, from within existing resources and as appropriate, a small number of staff and other resources to support the designated senior official in carrying out his or her functions;

(f) Commend the Centre for Human Rights and the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development of the Secretariat, and the United Nations Development Programme for the technical electoral assistance they have provided and are providing to requesting Member States, and request that they collaborate closely with and inform the senior official designated by the Secretary-General of the assistance provided and activities undertaken by them in the area of electoral assistance;

(g) Ask the Secretary-General to notify the competent organ of the United Nations upon receipt of official requests by a Member State for electoral verification and upon the direction of that organ, to provide appropriate assistance;

(h) Request the Secretary-General to establish, in accordance with United Nations financial regulations, a voluntary trust fund for cases where the requesting Member State is unable to finance, in whole or in part, the electoral verification mission and to propose guidelines for disbursements therefrom;

(i) Affirm the effectiveness of and the need for coordination with intergovernmental organizations, including regional organizations, having international electoral assistance experience;

(j) Invite those Member States that have not responded to the Secretary-General's request pursuant to paragraph 10 of resolution 45/150 to submit views concerning suitable approaches that will permit the Organization to respond to the requests of Member States for electoral assistance, to do so in order that the Secretary-General can include these views in his next report to the General Assembly;

(k) Request the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of this resolution, on the Organization's experience in and recommendations for providing electoral assistance to Member States, on the detailed guidelines and terms of reference being developed for United Nations electoral involvement and on the nature and disposition of the requests from Member States, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

B. Relationship of proposed request to the approved programme of work

3. The above requests are not covered by the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, 1/ nor are relevant activities included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, 2/ although they are most closely related to programme 35 (Promotion and protection of human rights) of the plan.

C. Activities by which the proposed request would be implemented

4. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would designate a senior official in his Offices to act as focal point for electoral matters, a function which that official would carry out in addition to his or her other responsibilities. The focal point would assist the Secretary-General in the consideration and channelling of requests for electoral verification or assistance to the appropriate office or programme, ensure carefully considered responses to such requests, build on experience gained to develop an institutional memory of United Nations experience in the electoral field, and develop and maintain a roster of international experts who could provide technical assistance as well as assist in the verification of electoral processes. The focal point would neither pre-empt nor supersede ongoing arrangements regarding electoral assistance. The responsibilities of the focal point would be without prejudice to operational arrangements for missions that the Organization might decide to undertake and would be confined to the conceptual level. The focal point would collaborate closely with organizations and programmes of the United Nations system active in providing technical electoral assistance, and in particular the Centre for Human Rights, the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development and the United Nations Development Programme.

5. The focal point would also work with offices and departments having experience in this field, to assist the Secretary-General in developing detailed guidelines and terms of reference for United Nations electoral involvement. He or she would also prepare uniform criteria for the assessment of electoral processes and prepare a manual for use by United Nations election monitors. The focal point would also be responsible for organizing preliminary missions to determine United Nations responses to requests for electoral verification.

6. The Secretary-General would also establish a voluntary trust fund to finance electoral assistance missions, as appropriate, it being understood that questions for financing would be decided on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the particular circumstances of each situation. He would also notify the competent organ of the United Nations upon receipt of official requests for electoral verification. Furthermore, he would report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session pursuant to the requests contained in paragraph 2 (k) above.

D. Modifications required in the proposed programme of work for 1992-1993

7. As noted in section B above, activities in this area are not programmed in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 and, pending results of the activities outlined in section C above, modifications to the proposed programme of work appear premature. Inclusion of this activity in the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 may, however, be considered in the context of the next revisions to the plan.

E. Estimated requirements in 1992-1993 at full cost

8. The activities outlined in section C above would require a considerable effort during an initial period to prepare detailed guidelines and terms of reference to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, prepare a manual for use by United Nations election monitors, develop a system for an institutional memory of United Nations experience in the electoral field, develop a roster of international experts and establish working relationships with relevant organizations and programmes of the United Nations system. Thereafter, the regular workload should diminish, although actual requirements would depend upon the number and nature of situations requiring the assistance of the United Nations. The ongoing functions would include the consideration and channelling of requests on the basis of established criteria and the preparation of responses; the maintenance of the institutional memory and the roster of experts; and the organization of preliminary missions to help determine United Nations responses to requests for electoral verification.

9. It is estimated that during the initial period, were a senior official in the Offices of the Secretary-General to be designated as focal point on electoral matters, two Professional staff members with experience in electoral verification matters (P-5 and P-3) would be required, together with provision for a secretary and limited consultancies and office automation equipment. On a full-cost basis, the related requirements for 1992-1993 would amount to $526,100, as follows:

	$
Consultants	30 000
Temporary posts	349 600
Common staff costs	134 600
Acquisition and maintenance of office automation equipment	11 900
Total	526 100

F. Potential for absorption

10. In accordance with the request contained in paragraph 2 (e) above, the Secretary-General would make every effort to avoid additional requirements through exploring possibilities for redeployments, alternative arrangements or non-reimbursable loans of staff from relevant organizations and programmes of the United Nations system. It is doubtful, however, that such ad hoc means will suffice to provide the senior official with adequate resources to implement satisfactorily the requests contained in draft resolution A/C.3/46/L.61/Rev.1 as orally revised. Furthermore, until the senior official has been designated and has had an opportunity to develop his or her programme of work and consult on possible ways of undertaking it, it will be very difficult to determine exactly to what extent related requirements can be absorbed.

11. Accordingly, should the Secretary-General find it necessary, he would seek the agreement of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to his entering into related commitments for 1992 under the procedures for unforeseen and extraordinary expenses.

G. Summary

12. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/46/L.61/Rev.1, as orally revised, no additional appropriation would be requested at this stage.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/45/6/Rev.1), vol. II.

2/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/46/6/Rev.1), vol. II.

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PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Report of the Committee for Development Planning: criteria for identifying the least developed countries

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.101

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. At its 58th meeting, on 11 December 1991, the Second Committee adopted, without a vote, draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.101. A statement of programme budget implications was before the Committee in document A/C.2/46/L.114.

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of the operative paragraphs of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.101, the General Assembly would:

(a) Note with appreciation the new criteria for identifying the least developed among the developing countries and the graduation rules recommended by the Committee for Development Planning, 1/ and request the Committee to consider further possible improvements in the criteria and their applications and report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session through the Economic and Social Council;

(b) Request the Committee for Development Planning to undertake every three years a general review of the list of low-income countries, with a view to identifying which of those countries should qualify for inclusion in, or

should be graduated from, the list of the least developed countries, and to present that review to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council;

(c) Decide that the General Assembly should act on the recommendations of the Committee for Development Planning for the inclusion of a country in the list of the least developed countries, provided the country concerned had signified its consent;

(d) Stress that there was need for a smooth transition of the countries graduating out of the group of the least developed countries, with a view to avoiding disruption in their development plans, programmes and projects, and invite Governments, international organizations and other concerned parties to take appropriate steps to ensure such a smooth transition;

(e) Decide, in that context, that the graduation of a country would be completed following a transitional period of three years, which would commence immediately after the General Assembly had taken note of the finding of the Committee for Development Planning to graduate that country;

(f) Endorse the recommendations of the Committee for Development Planning regarding the inclusion of Cambodia, Solomon Islands, Zaire and Zambia in the list of least developed countries; 2/

(g) Take note of the finding of the Committee for Development Planning to graduate Botswana from the list of the least developed countries and decide that its graduation from the list would be completed following a transition period of three years, in accordance with [paragraph 1 (e) above];

(h) Request the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to report to the Conference at its eighth session on the resource and other implications of the application of the new criteria for identifying the least developed countries for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s;

(i) Request the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to follow his above-mentioned report to the Conference with a report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the same subject.

B. Relationship of the proposed requests to the medium-term plan and proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993

3. The requests contained in paragraph 2 (h) and (i) above relate to subprogramme 1 (Least developed countries) of programme 15 (Least developed, land-locked and island developing countries and special programmes) of major programme IV (International economic cooperation for development) of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 3/, and to section 15 (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. 4/

4. Provision is made under section 1 (Overall policy-making, direction and coordination) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 for travel of representatives of Member States that are least developed countries to sessions of the General Assembly. This activity is not programmed.

C. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

5. As regards the requests contained in paragraph 2 (h) and (i) above, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would request the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to:

(a) Report to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session on the resource and other implications of the application of the new criteria for identifying the least developed countries for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s;

(b) Follow the above-mentioned report with a report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the same subject.

6. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1798 (XVII) of 11 December 1962, as amended by Assembly resolutions 2245 (XXI) of 20 December 1966 and 2489 (XXIII) and 2491 (XXIII) of 21 December 1968, travel expenses but not subsistence expenses have been paid by the Organization for not more than five representatives, including alternate representatives, of each Member State attending a regular session of the Assembly and for one representative or alternate representative attending a special or emergency special session of the Assembly. Recommendation 6 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations, however, provided that reimbursement of travel costs for representatives of Member States attending the Assembly should be limited to the least developed countries, 5/ and, by resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, the Assembly decided that the recommendations as agreed upon and as contained in the report of the Group should be implemented. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the inclusion of Cambodia, Solomon Islands, Zaire and Zambia in the list of the least developed countries would involve the payment of the travel expenses of their representatives and alternate representatives, as indicated above.

D. Modifications required in the proposed programme budget for 1992-1993

7. As indicated in paragraph 3 above, activities in this area have been programmed under section 15 (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

Consequently, no modification would be required should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution.

8. As indicated in paragraph 4 above, provision under section 1 of the proposed programme budget for 1992-1993 for travel of representatives of least developed countries to sessions of the General Assembly is not programmed. Consequently, no modification would be required.

E. Additional requirements at full cost

9. The activities outlined in paragraph 5 above are within the scope of activities of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, for which financial provision is made under section 15 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. Consequently, it is anticipated that there will be no additional requirements in this respect.

10. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, Cambodia, Solomon Islands, Zaire and Zambia would be entitled to reimbursement of the travel costs of their representatives to the forty-seventh and forty-eighth sessions of the General Assembly. Based on current air fares, and assuming a full use of this entitlement, estimated additional costs of $217,300 would arise during the biennium 1992-1993.

F. Potential for absorption

11. The provision under section 1 of the proposed programme budget relates to travel to sessions of the General Assembly by representatives of the 40 Member States that are currently designated as least developed countries and it is not anticipated that the estimated additional cost of $217,300 could be absorbed within the proposed appropriation.

G. Indication of additional requirements

12. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.101, it is estimated that an additional requirement of $217,300 would arise.

H. Contingency fund

13. It will be recalled that, under the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the proposed programme budget. Under that procedure, if additional expenditures are proposed that exceed the resources available from the contingency fund, the activities concerned can be implemented only through redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or

modification of existing activities. Otherwise, such additional activities will have to be deferred to a subsequent biennium. A consolidated statement of all programme budget implications and revised estimates will be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of its current session.

14. No activity has been identified for termination, deferral, curtailment or modification under section 1 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. Should it not prove possible to meet the required costs from the contingency fund, the implementation of the draft resolution may have to be postponed, as provided for in the criteria for the use of the contingency fund, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 42/211 of 21 December 1987.

I. Summary

15. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.101, it is estimated that an additional appropriation of $217,300 would be required under section 1 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 11 (E/1991/32), chap. V.

2/ Ibid., para. 256.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/45/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

4/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/46/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

5/ Ibid., Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 49 (A/41/49), para. 21.

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PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: ENVIRONMENT

International cooperation to mitigate the environmental consequences on Kuwait and other countries in the region resulting from the situation between Iraq and Kuwait

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.71/Rev.1

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. At its 58th meeting, on 11 December 1991, the Second Committee adopted, by a recorded vote, draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.71/Rev.1. A statement of programme budget implications was before the Committee in documents A/C.2/46/L.98 and Add.1.

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 1 to 4 of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.71/Rev.1, the General Assembly would:

(a) Urgently appeal to all States Members of the United Nations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, scientific bodies and individuals to provide assistance for programmes aimed at the study and mitigation of the environmental deterioration of the region, and for strengthening the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment and its role in coordinating the implementation of these programmes;

(b) Call upon the organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, in particular the International Maritime Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme, to pursue their efforts to assess and counteract the short-term as well as long-term impact of the environmental deterioration of the region;

(c) Request the Secretary-General, through his personal representative, to render assistance to the members of the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment in the formulation and implementation of a coordinated and consolidated programme of action comprising costed project profiles, to help identify all possible resources for the programme of action and, inter alia, for strengthening the environmental capacities of the members of the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment to surmount the problem, and to allocate, within existing resources, the minimum resources required to enable his personal representative to continue to help coordinate the activities of the United Nations system to that end;

(d) Also request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at is forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the implementation of the resolution.

B. Relationship of requests to the approved programme of work

3. Coordination of activities related to mitigation of the environmental consequences on Kuwait and other countries in the region resulting from the situation between Iraq and Kuwait is not included in the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, 1/ nor has a related provision been included under section 1 (Overall policy-making, direction and coordination) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. 2/

C. Activities by which the proposed request would be implemented

4. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would request his personal representative to cooperate closely with the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment and with organizations and programmes of the United Nations system principally responsible for work in this area, in particular the International Maritime Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme, in:

(a) Coordinating the related activities of the United Nations system for the consolidated programme of action;

(b) Formulating the consolidated programme of action comprising costed project profiles;

(c) Identifying and mobilizing possible resources for the programme of action;

(d) Stimulating public awareness;

(e) Liaising with the national authorities concerned;

(f) Monitoring the assistance provided by the United Nations system as well as bilaterally;

(g) Disseminating information, in cooperation with the Department of Public Information;

(h) Preparing progress reports, including a report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the resolution.

D. Modifications required in the proposed programme of work for the biennium 1992-1993

5. As indicated in section B, the above-mentioned activities are not programmed and hence no modifications will be required in the proposed programme of work for the biennium 1992-1993.

E. Additional requirements at full cost

6. It is anticipated that, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the personal representative of the Secretary-General would require the assistance of a Professional staff member (at the P-4 level) to assist her in carrying out the activities outlined in section C above, and general temporary assistance for temporary junior supporting staff and consultants, as well as provision for overtime and travel of staff.

7. On a full-cost basis, these additional requirements for 1992 are estimated at $185,900, as indicated below:

		$
(a)	General temporary assistance	33 000
(b)	Consultants	20 000
(c)	Overtime	1 500
(d)	Temporary posts	78 900
(e)	Common staff costs	27 500
(f)	Travel of staff	25 000
		185 900

F. Potential for absorption

8. Secretarial support would be provided by the Office of the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna. It is not anticipated that any of the estimated requirements outlined in section E above can be absorbed within the provisions under section 1 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, however, since these estimated requirements were already predicated on the assumption that the personal representative of the Secretary-General could draw on the advice and support of the agencies and organizations of the United Nations system most concerned with the problems addressed by the draft resolution, notably the United Nations Environment Programme and the International Maritime Organization.

9. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would seek to obtain voluntary contributions to allow him to carry out the tasks enumerated in it. The degree to which he could respond to the requests contained in the draft resolution would, however, depend on his success in obtaining such voluntary contributions.

Summary

10. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.71/Rev.1, no additional appropriations would be required under section 1 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. The extent to which the Secretary-General would be able to respond to the requests contained in that draft resolution, however, would depend upon his success in obtaining voluntary contributions for the related work.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/45/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

2/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/46/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

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PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Programme budget implications of draft decisions
A/C.2/46/L.62 and A/C.2/46/L.64

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. At its 56th meeting and 58th meeting held on 6 and 11 December 1991 respectively, the Second Committee adopted, without a vote, draft decisions A/C.2/46/L.62 and A/C.2/46/L.64. Statements of programme budget implications were before the Committee in documents A/C.2/46/L.78 and A/C.2/46/L.86.

A. Draft decision A/C.2/46/L.62 entitled "Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa"

1. Requests contained in the draft decision

2. Under the terms of draft decision A/C.2/46/L.62, the General Assembly would:

(a) Endorse Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/83 of 26 July 1991 on the Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa;

(b) Agree to provide adequate resources within the context of the biennium 1992-1993 for the full implementation of that resolution.

3. By resolution 1991/83, the Economic and Social Council, inter alia, adopted the programme for the Second Transport and Communications Decade in

Africa (1991-2000) (operative para. 1); recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme for the Second Decade (operative para. 2); requested the General Assembly to formally launch the Second Decade (operative para. 3); invited the General Assembly to provide the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) with the necessary regular budgetary resources to enable it to carry out its responsibilities as the lead agency for the Second Decade effectively and efficiently (operative para. 4); and requested ECA, as lead agency, to ensure that adequate manpower and financial resources, both regular and extrabudgetary, were allocated for harmonizing, coordinating and monitoring the organization and implementation of the activities of the Second Decade and other relevant projects that were the responsibility of the Commission as lead agency (operative para. 6).

2. Description of activities proposed in the draft decision and their estimated requirements at full cost

4. The above proposals fall under major programme VI (Regional cooperation for economic and social development), programme 30 (Regional cooperation for development in Africa), subprogramme 19 (Transport and communications) of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997. 1/ This subprogramme was given high priority. The proposals are also part of section 23 (Economic Commission for Africa) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993; the resources proposed for the biennium under subprogramme 19 amount to $2,481,600 (at revised 1991 rates). 2/

5. The activities of ECA during the biennium 1992-1993 will be oriented towards further promotion of regional cooperation for the development of transport, communications and postal services, including related issues of infrastructure and networks at country and regional levels, through the formulation of appropriate policies and programmes. These activities will include:

(a) Seven working groups and four subregional workshops/seminars of three working days for country representatives at ECA headquarters and in various parts of the continent;

(b) Twelve staff missions of five working days each to assist African countries in finalizing their country programmes in the context of the Decade; four fund-raising missions of five working days each to donor countries and international financial institutions would be undertaken by the ECA Resource Mobilization Committee;

(c) Two brochures and two reports on programme implementation would be issued for distribution to the media, governmental and non-governmental organizations and institutions and the general public.

6. The programme would be guided and monitored by the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, assisted by the Intergovernmental Experts on Transport, Communications and Planning, the Inter-agency Coordinating Committee and the Resource Mobilization Committee.

7. The estimated requirements at full cost for these activities would be:

		$
(a)	Working groups and workshops:	
	Travel and daily subsistence allowance costs for three staff members attending each subregional workshop	47 600
	Consultants (emoluments for (i) five research persons for workshops/working groups (eight work-months) and (ii) specialized expertise in transport and communications to prepare a consolidated baseline assessment of the sector (six work-months)	64 000
(b)	Missions (travel and daily subsistence allowance costs for two staff members to serve each mission)	112 000
(c)	Consultancy for three work-months in relation to preparation of two brochures	10 000
(d)	Servicing of additional meetings of the intergovernmental organs (temporary assistance for meetings)	156 000
(e)	One post at the P-3 level and related General Service (local level) post to strengthen the capacity of the Division for Transport, Communications and Tourism in the preparation and implementation of Decade-related activities; the P-3 post would be responsible for the preparation of the working groups, workshops and missions in the context of the programme of activities	99 900
	Total	489 500

3. Modifications required in the proposed programme budget for 1992-1993 and estimated additional requirements

8. The following activities would be added to the 1992-1993 proposed programme of work of ECA under section 23:

Subprogramme 19. Transport and communications

Activities:

2. Parliamentary services

Parliamentary documentation: reports to (a) the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning and (b) the Meeting of the Intergovernmental Experts on Transport, Communications and Planning.

3. Published material

(b) Four non-recurrent publications: two brochures and two annual reports on implementation of the Second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa.

The other activities referred to in paragraph 5 above have already been programmed under subprogramme 19.

9. The resources requested under subprogramme 19 of section 23 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 would partly cover the costs involved. This would partly be the case for consultants ($18,000), for travel of staff ($52,000) and requirements for temporary assistance for meetings ($156,000). For printing, it is intended to utilize to the extent possible the in-house capacity of ECA. The remaining costs, amounting to $263,500 ($56,000 for consultants, $107,600 for travel of staff and $99,900 for staff costs), represent the additional requirements under section 23 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 to be treated in the context of the guidelines for the operation of the Contingency Fund.

4. Contingency fund

10. Under the procedures established by the General Assembly in resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget. If additional expenditures are proposed that exceed the resources available from the Contingency Fund, the activities concerned can be implemented only through redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or modification of proposed activities. Otherwise, such additional activities will have to be deferred to a later biennium. In addition, each statement of programme budget implications and each proposed revised estimates should contain alternatives to the financing from the Contingency Fund of the proposed new activities.

11. In the event that the additional $263,500 cannot be financed from the Contingency Fund, the following activities of low priority under section 23 would be postponed to the biennium 1994-1995:

Subprogramme 12. Trade development and cooperation

Activities:

3. Operational activities

Advisory services on the implementation of the Strategies for the Revitalization, Recovery and Growth of Africa's Trade in the 1990s and Beyond (12 work-months of Professional staff and $8,000 for travel).

Subprogramme 15. Natural resources

Activities:

2. Published material

(b) Non-recurrent publications: proposals for conservation and rational use of water resources in selected North African countries (four work-months of Professional staff, four work-months of local level staff and $21,100 of consultancy).

3. Information materials and services

Poster commemorating the International Space Year; charts and exhibitions on ECA activities (10 work-months of Professional staff, 7 work-months of local level staff and $7,700 of operational costs).

Subprogramme 17. Science and technology for development

Activities:

4. Operational activities

(b) Group training: workshop on effectiveness of national institutions for science and technology (four work-months of Professional staff, one work-month of local level staff and $17,000 of travel costs).

12. The costs associated with the above activities of low priority, totalling $260,000, would be utilized for the financing of the activities called for in draft decision A/C.2/46/L.62.

B. Draft decision A/C.2/46/L.64 entitled "Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1991-2000)"

1. Requests contained in the draft decision

13. Under the terms of draft decision A/C.2/46/L.64, the General Assembly would:

(a) Endorse Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/81 of 26 July 1991 on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1991-2000);

(b) Agree to provide adequate resources within the context of the biennium 1992-1993 for the full implementation of that resolution.

14. By its resolution 1991/81, the Economic and Social Council, inter alia,

(a) Requested the Conference of African Ministers of Industry to submit to the General Assembly, at its forty-sixth session, the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, which is currently being finalized, together with the recommendations concerning the practical modalities of its implementation and monitoring and including modalities for the mobilization of funds needed to finance the programme at the national, subregional, regional and international levels;

(b) Recommended that the General Assembly provide ECA with adequate resources to enable it to assist African countries and organizations effectively in the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

(c) Requested the Executive Secretary of ECA, in cooperation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), to take follow-up action to promote national, subregional and regional activities in support of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and submit a report on the implementation of that resolution to the Conference of Ministers of ECA at its eighteenth meeting.

2. Description of activities proposed in the draft decision and their estimated requirements at full cost

15. The above proposals fall under major programme VI (Regional cooperation for economic and social development), programme 30 (Regional cooperation for development in Africa), subprogramme 11 (Industrial development), of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997. 1/ This subprogramme was given high priority.

16. The programme of activities for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa was adopted in June 1991 at the meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of the Whole on Industrialization in Africa and the tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry. During the biennium 1992-1993, the activities will be oriented towards strengthening the technological and entrepreneurial capabilities of African countries at the national, subregional and regional levels. Particular attention will be paid to small-scale, cottage and rural industries. Efforts will be made to strengthen subregional and regional institutions for industrial development in the fields of technology, standardization, production and management.

17. The particulars of the programme were available at the time of the preparation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 and have been utilized for the development of subprogramme 11 (Industrial development in Africa) of section 23 (Economic Commission for Africa). 2/ The resources proposed for the biennium in that subprogramme amount to $9,703,200, including both regular budget and extrabudgetary components. Moreover, the resources programmed for ECA under section 12 (Regular programme of technical cooperation) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 would be utilized for the promotion of cooperation between technological development institutions, small industry associations, chambers of commerce and industry and financial development institutions in the region.

18. In addition to the activities already programmed in the proposed programme budget, the following activities would be implemented:

(a) Four subregional meetings of three working days each on the identification of subregional and country priorities in the context of the Decade for country representatives would be held in various parts of the continent;

(b) A workshop for industrial and transport experts of three working days for the purpose of coordination of activities of the Second Industrial Development Decade and the Second Decade for Transport and Communications in Africa would be organized in 1992.

The programme would be guided and monitored by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, assisted by the Intergovernmental Committee of the Whole on Industrialization in Africa and the Committee on the Follow-up to the Industrial Development Decade Programme.

19. The estimated requirements at full cost for these additional activities would be:

		$
(a)	Subregional meetings:	
	Travel and daily subsistence allowance costs for two staff members attending each subregional meeting	31 700
	Consultants (specialized expertise in industry to prepare a consolidated assessment of priorities of the sector in each subregion (eight work months))	24 000
(b)	Servicing of meetings of the Committee on the Follow-up to the Industrial Development Decade Programme (temporary assistance for meetings)	45 000
(c)	General temporary assistance (equivalent to 12 work months at P-3 level) for the preparation of subregional meetings and workshop	79 700
	Total	180 400

3. Modifications required in the proposed programme budget for 1992-1993 and estimated additional requirements

20. The following activities would be added to the 1992-1993 proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, under section 23:

Subprogramme 11. Industrial Development in Africa

Activities:

4. Operational activities:

(a) Advisory services: four subregional meetings on subregional and country priorities in the context of the implementation of the Second Industrial Development Decade;

(b) Group training: workshops on coordination of the activities under the Second Industrial Development Decade and the Second Decade for Transport and Communications in Africa.

21. The resources requested under section 23 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 would partly cover the additional costs involved: the temporary assistance for meetings ($45,000) could be absorbed from within the overall provision made for this purpose. The remaining costs ($135,400) represent the additional requirements under this section to be treated in the context of the guidelines for the use of the Contingency Fund.

4. Contingency fund

22. Under the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 44/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the proposed programme budget. In addition, each statement of programme budget implications and each proposal for revised estimates should contain alternatives to the financing of the proposed new activities from the Contingency Fund.

23. In the event that the additional $135,400 could not be financed from the Contingency Fund, it is proposed that the following low-priority activities under section 23 be postponed to the biennium 1994-1995:

Subprogramme 10. Human settlements

Activities:

2. Published material: non-recurrent publication: formulation of efficient land use planning within the framework of the urban economy (five work months of Professional staff).

Subprogramme 12. Trade development and cooperation

Activities:

1. Published material: non-recurrent publication: trade facilitation in rural areas with emphasis on trade financing, credit facilities and services in rural areas.

Subprogramme 14. Monetary and financial policies and strategies

Activities:

2. Published material: non-recurrent publication: measures needed to provide effective trade financing mechanisms for the revitalization of Africa's trade and its contribution to economic growth (six work months of Professional staff and one work month of General Service staff).

The costs associated with the above low-priority activities would be utilized for the financing of the activities called for in the draft decision under consideration.

C. Summary

24. Should the General Assembly adopt draft decisions A/C.2/46/L.62 and A/C.2/46/L.64, the proposed programme of work under section 23 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 would be increased by the additional activities listed in paragraphs 8 and 20 above.

25. Subject to guidelines for the operation and use of the Contingency Fund, an additional appropriation of $398,900 would be required under section 23. In addition, an appropriation in the amount of $16,100 for staff assessment would be required under section 36 (Staff assessment), to be offset by the equivalent amount of incomes under section 1 (Income from staff assessment).

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/45/6/Rev.1), vol. II.

2/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/46/6/Rev.1), vol. II.

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PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Phase II of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific

Programme budget implications of draft decision A/C.2/46/L.65

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. At its 58th meeting, held on 11 December 1991, the Second Committee adopted, without a vote, draft decision A/C.2/46/L.65, as orally revised. A statement of programme budget implications was before the Committee in document A/C.2/46/L.83.

A. Requests contained in the draft decision

2. By draft decision A/C.2/46/L.65, as orally revised, the General Assembly would endorse Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/75 of 26 July 1991, entitled "Phase II of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994", in particular paragraph 2 of that resolution.

3. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1991/75, inter alia:

(a) Endorsed resolution 47/10 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) on phase II of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994, with a view to:

(i) Raising the transport and communications infrastructural facilities and services of developing member and associate member Governments to a level commensurate with their development objectives and priorities, giving particular attention to the special needs of the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries of the region;

(ii) Encouraging the active participation of existing subregional groupings of the region in formulating and implementing the activities for the Decade within their respective subregions in coordination with the regional secretariat;

(iii) Associating national institutions concerned with transport and communications in the implementation of the activities for the Decade;

(iv) Promoting the active involvement of commercial sectors in the implementation of the activities for the Decade;

(b) Recommended that the General Assembly change the period of the second quinquennium of the Decade to 1992-1996 to coincide with the period of the medium-term plan, namely 1992-1997, so that adequate preparations for a regional action programme may be made, in accordance with resolution 47/10 of ESCAP;

(c) Requested the Executive Secretaries of ESCAP and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) to promote intergovernmental and inter-agency coordination and cooperation at the regional and subregional levels in the formulation and implementation of a regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade;

(d) Requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its regular session of 1992 and every two years thereafter until the end of the Decade a report on the implementation of the resolution.

B. Relationship of the proposed requests to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 and proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993

4. The activities related to the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific are included in programme 31 (Regional cooperation for development in Asia and the Pacific), subprogramme 14 (Transport and communications), and programme 34 (Regional cooperation for development in Western Asia), subprogramme 15 (Transport and communications) of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, 1/ as well as in sections 24 and 27 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. 2/

C. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

5. Should decision A/C.2/46/L.65 be adopted, a regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade would be prepared, taking due account of the shortcomings identified during the first quinquennium. ESCAP and ESCWA would coordinate their activities and undertake joint projects. A working group comprising representatives of organizations of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and subregional groupings concerned with the development of transport and communications in the two regions would be convened in 1992 by ESCAP in collaboration with ESCWA. The proposed regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade would be reviewed at a joint meeting of the working group and senior government officials responsible for transport and communications development in the two regions. A meeting of ministers of the member countries responsible for transport and communications would subsequently be convened to review, adopt and launch the regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade. A report on implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/75 would be prepared for the regular session of 1992 of the Council and a report on the regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade would be prepared for consideration by both Commissions at their annual sessions.

D. Modifications required in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993

6. Some of the activities in relation to the Decade have already been programmed in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. However, the preparation of the regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade and joint activities by ESCAP and ESCWA in the context of the Decade would have to be added to the work programme contained in subprogramme 14 (Transport and communications) of section 24 of the proposed programme budget as follows:

1. Parliamentary services

At the end of the entry add

Substantive services: a working group, comprising representatives of organizations of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and subregional groupings concerned with the development of transport and communications in Asia and the Pacific and in Western Asia; a joint meeting of the working group and government officials responsible for transport and communications development to prepare and review the regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade; a meeting of ministers for transport and communications to review, adopt and launch the regional action programme.

4. Coordination, harmonization and liaison

After 1985-1994 add and joint projects with ESCWA within the framework of the Decade.

E. Additional requirements at full cost

7. At the time of the preparation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, provision had been made for the ongoing work related to the Decade. Activities to be undertaken in the context of a regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade, particularly those to be implemented jointly with ESCWA, would, however, require additional resources. In that connection, it is proposed that a temporary P-3 post be established, effective January 1992, under subprogramme 14 of section 24 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. The incumbent of the post would be responsible for preparation of the working group, the joint meeting of the working group and government officials and the ministerial meeting referred to in paragraph 5 above, as well as for data collection, research and analysis required for the formulation and implementation of the regional action programme and for coordination of the joint activities to be implemented with ESCWA. The related salary and common staff costs would amount to $73,500. In addition, consultant services in the amount of $15,000 would be required to assist in formulating the regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade. Moreover, coordination of the activities between ESCAP and ESCWA would call for additional resources for travel in the amount of $12,000.

F. Potential for absorption

8. It is estimated that additional requirements for consultants and travel of staff totalling $27,000 could be absorbed from within the overall provision for consultants and travel under section 24 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. As regards the estimated costs for the temporary P-3 post ($73,500), those costs cannot be absorbed and thus represent additional requirements for the forthcoming biennium under section 24, to be treated in the context of the guidelines established for the use of the Contingency Fund.

G. Contingency Fund

9. It will be recalled that, under the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the proposed programme budget. In addition, each statement of programme budget implications and each proposal for revised estimates should contain alternatives to the financing of the proposed new activities from the Contingency Fund.

10. In the event that the additional requirements of $73,500 arising from the additional activities mentioned above cannot be met from the Contingency Fund, it is proposed that the following low-priority activities, equivalent to 24 work-months of Professional staff under subprogramme 14 of section 24, be postponed to the biennium 1994-1995:

2. Published materials

Recurrent publication: Inland Water Transport Bulletin (annual).
Non-recurrent publications: directory of railway training institutions, guide to railway research and an institutional guide to roads and road transport.

H. Summary

11. Should the General Assembly adopt draft decision A/C.2/46/L.65 the activities detailed in paragraph 6 above would have to be added to the work programme under subprogramme 14 of section 24 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

12. An additional appropriation in the amount of $73,500 would be required under section 24 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, subject to the guidelines of the Contingency Fund. In addition, an amount of $15,400 for staff assessment would be required under section 36 (Staff assessment), to be offset by an increase in the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment).

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/45/6/Rev.1), vol. II.

2/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/46/6/Rev.1), vol. II.